

PROJECT FACILITATION

Public involvement is not an adjunct to our transportation mission, it is integral to the success of that mission. Without meaningful public involvement, we risk making less than optimal decisions. With it, we can make a lasting contribution to the well being of our cities, our towns, our neighborhoods and our communities.

Public involvement is more than an agency requirement, more than a means of fulfilling a statutory obligation. True public involvement is central to good decision making. INDOT's Office of Project Facilitation promotes the proactive engagement of project stakeholders in an effort to keep our customers informed and made aware of project developments, milestones and key decision making points, while creating avenues in which the public may express concerns and have those concerns adequately addressed.

INDOT Project Facilitators utilize many public involvement tools in which to engage their respective project stakeholder groups and to solicit input for those groups. Project newsletters, websites, small groups meetings are just a few ways these facilitators work with any given community in regards to INDOT projects. By proactively engaging project stakeholders, project facilitators enhance INDOT's ability to fully consider public input as we implement transportation solutions that improve safety and efficiency, protect natural and human environments, and contribute to community vitality.

Engaging the public is an essential part of successful project development and begins during long-range transportation system planning and programming. With NEPA-inspired public involvement and integration of results into transportation decision making, we can create better projects that fulfill community vision. As we involve the public, we do even more than improve transportation project development and decision making; we strengthen our democracy, helping individual members of the public to realize their responsibilities as citizens and helping each of us to fulfill our obligations to one another and to a shared future.

INDOT Project Facilitators work closely with INDOT Central Office Project Managers to proactively engage project stakeholders. Facilitators roles and responsibilities vary but typically include the following:

Responding to public inquiries via phone, fax, letter and email. 2. Publishing Project Newsletters (3 each per month) 3. Compiling potential (Community Advisory Committee (CAC) member lists 5. Writing and Sending CAC invitations 5.

Coordinating CAC meeting venues 6. Preparing and distributing CAC meeting minutes 7. Assisting in developing CAC Presentations 8. Attending and Facilitating CAC meetings 9. Setup and Update Project websites 10. Attending and Presenting at Community meetings 11. Preparing presentations for community meetings 12. Follow-up on responses to community meetings 13. Attending and assisting with Public Hearings and Public Information meetings 14. Project specific website development and implementation.

INDOT Project Facilitators are charged with the task of keeping project stakeholders informed by using tools to proactively communicate with our customers.

For more information regarding INDOT Project Facilitation, please feel free to contact any of the project facilitators below:

1. Aimee Kindred, INDOT Project Facilitator, 100 North Senate Avenue, Room N955, Indianapolis, Indiana; (317) 234-4938 e-mail: akindred@indot.in.gov
2. Annette Cousert, INDOT Project Facilitator, 100 North Senate Avenue, Room N955, Indianapolis, Indiana; (317) 234-3534 e-mail: acousert@indot.in.gov
3. Randy Brown, INDOT Project Facilitator, 100 North Senate Avenue, Room N955, Indianapolis, Indiana; (317) 232-5020 e-mail: rybrown@indot.in.gov
4. Pankaj Desai, INDOT Project Facilitator, 100 North Senate Avenue, Room N955, Indianapolis, Indiana; (317) 232-5214 e-mail: pdesai@indot.in.gov

Please visit the INDOT Public Involvement Web page to view Project Facilitator Newsletters and to view a listing of projects with facilitators assigned.

**INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**